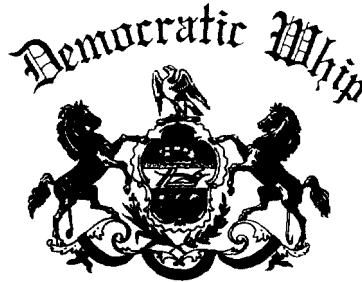


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38TH DISTRICT
LEONARD J. BODACK
SENATE BOX 203038
THE STATE CAPITOL
HARRISBURG, PA 17120-3038
(717) 787-6123

4825 BUTLER STREET
PITTSBURGH, PA 15201
(412) 621-3006



Senate of Pennsylvania

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STATE JOB TRAINING COORDINATING COUNCIL
STATE PUBLIC SCHOOL BUILDING AUTHORITY
SENATE COMMITTEE ON MANAGEMENT
OPERATIONS

Harrisburg Office

March 5, 1997

Mr. William F. Caton
Office of the Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W. Room 222
Washington, D.C. 20554

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FCC

Re: Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission Petition for Expanded Waiver of the
Ten Digit Dialing Requirement of 47 C.F.R. Sec. 52.19 for 412 (Pittsburgh) NPA
Area Code Relief, CC Docket No.96-98 (Tracking No. 970116)

Dear Mr. Caton:

On behalf of my constituents who reside in the 412 area code, I support and ask that the FCC grant the petition by the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission referenced above. This petition seeks an expedited waiver of the FCC's ten-digit dialing requirement, permitting a 724 overlay with continued seven-digit dialing.

I am particularly concerned with the senior citizens residing within the 412 area, the second biggest metropolitan senior citizen population in the country. Often they do not have the mental agility needed to learn new area codes and the requirement for ten-digit dialing will cause confusion and anger. This seems particularly onerous as it is not technologically necessary.

This waiver will not interfere with competition as customers can switch to non-Bell phone service providers and keep their 412 numbers; competing providers have approximately 2.6 million 412 numbers, or one of every three, for assignment to their customers.

A prompt waiver is needed to permit required network work and customer education to be completed of the 7-digit overlay on May 1. I hope you will consider this matter favorably as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

LEONARD J. BODACK

State Senator
38th District

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PATRICK J. STAPLETON
STATE SENATOR
41ST DISTRICT
581 PHILADELPHIA STREET
INDIANA, PA 15701
AC 412 - 349-7010

IN REPLY:

SENATE BOX 203041
THE STATE CAPITOL
HARRISBURG, PA 17120-3041

AC 717 - 787-1244

Minority Policy Chairman



Senate of Pennsylvania

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COMMITTEE, VICE-CHAIRMAN

CENTER FOR RURAL PENNSYLVANIA
FARMLAND PRESERVATION BOARD
BOARD OF GOVERNORS, STATE SYSTEM
OF HIGHER EDUCATION

March 5, 1997

Mr. William F. Caton
Office of the Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W., Room 222
Washington, D. C. 20554

Re: Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission Petition for Expedited Waiver of the Ten-Digit Dialing Requirement of 47 C.F.R. Sec. 52.19 for 412 (Pittsburgh) NPA Area Code Relief, CC Docket No. 96-98 (Tracking No. 970116)

Dear Mr. Caton:

On behalf of my constituents who reside in the 412 area code, I would ask that the FCC grant the above-referenced petition by the Pennsylvania PUC. This petition seeks an expedited waiver of the FCC's ten-digit dialing requirement in connection with the implementation of 412 overlay code relief on May 1, 1997. A grant of this waiver will permit the 724 overlay area code to be implemented with continued seven-digit dialing within the old and new area codes, as required by a PUC Order entered on September 12, 1996.

While I favor vigorous competition in the telecommunications marketplace, I do not believe that forcing two million business and residential customers in the 412 area code (including the second biggest metropolitan senior citizen population in the country) to give up the ease, convenience and familiarity of seven-digit dialing is necessary to promote competition. As explained in the PUC's petition, the assumption underlying the 10-digit dialing requirement for overlays -- that competing phone service providers will have to assign customer numbers in the overlay area code -- is undercut by actual numbering conditions in the 412 area code. The availability of interim and permanent number portability will permit customers who switch to other phone service providers to keep their 412 numbers. In addition, competing providers will themselves have approximately 2.6 million 412 numbers, or one of every three usable 412 numbers, for assignment to their customers. Therefore, a waiver of this requirement is clearly justified in 412.

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Mr. William F. Caton
March 5, 1997
Page 2

I also request that the FCC act expeditiously on the waiver request since 412 area code relief is desperately needed and accordingly must be implemented on schedule on May 1.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Patrick J. Stapleton", with a stylized, sweeping flourish at the end.

Patrick J. Stapleton

Copy: International Transcription Services, Inc.
Chief, Network Services Division, FCC Common Carrier Bureau